



Uttlesford District Council

Chief Executive: Peter Holt

Voluntary Support Grant Committee

Date: Thursday, 24th February, 2022

Time: 5.00 pm

Venue: Council Chamber

Chair: TBA

Members: Councillors N Hargreaves, P Lees, N Reeve and M Sutton

Public Speaking

At the start of the meeting there will be an opportunity of up to 15 minutes for members of the public to ask questions and make statements subject to having given notice by 12 noon two working days before the meeting. Please register your intention to speak at this meeting by writing to committee@uttlesford.gov.uk

Public speakers will be offered the opportunity for an officer to read out their questions or statement at the meeting, and encouraged to attend the meeting via Zoom to readout their questions or statement themselves. For further information, please see overleaf. Those who would like to watch the meeting live can do so virtually [here](#). The broadcast will be made available as soon as the meeting begins.

AGENDA

PART 1

Open to Public and Press

1 Election of a Chair

To elect a Chair of the Committee.

2 Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

To receive apologies for absence and declarations of interest.

3 Minutes of Previous Meetings

4 - 13

To receive minutes of the meetings held on 15 & 23 February 2021.

4 Voluntary Organisation Support Grant Applications

14 - 26

To consider all applications and allocate up to £310,000 grant funding as per the Council's Grants Policy.

MEETINGS AND THE PUBLIC

In light of the High Court judgement regarding the extension of remote meeting regulations, Council, Cabinet and Committee meetings will now be returning to in-person and will be held on-site from Thursday 6th May 2021. However, due to social distancing measures and capacity considerations in line with the Council's risk assessment, public access and participation will continue to be encouraged virtually until further notice.

Members of the public are welcome to listen live to the debate of any of the Council's Cabinet or Committee meetings. All live broadcasts and meeting papers can be viewed on the Council's calendar of meetings webpage.

Members of the public are permitted to speak at this meeting and will be encouraged to do so via the video conferencing platform Zoom. If you wish to make a statement via Zoom video link, you will need to register with Democratic Services by midday two working days before the meeting. There is a 15 minute public speaking limit and 3 minute speaking slots will be given on a first come, first served basis. Those wishing to make a statement via video link will require an internet connection and a device with a microphone and video camera enabled. Those wishing to make a statement to the meeting who do not have internet access can do so via telephone.

Technical guidance on the practicalities of participating via Zoom will be given at the point of confirming your registration slot, but if you have any questions regarding the best way to participate in this meeting please call Democratic Services on 01799 510 369/410/467/548 who will advise on the options available.

Agenda and Minutes are available in alternative formats and/or languages. For more information please call 01799 510510.

Facilities for people with disabilities

If you are deaf or have impaired hearing and would like a signer available at a meeting, please contact committee@uttlesford.gov.uk or phone 01799 510 369/410/467/548 as soon as possible prior to the meeting.

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Agenda Item 3

VOLUNTARY SUPPORT GRANT COMMITTEE held at ZOOM on MONDAY, 15 FEBRUARY 2021 at 11.00 am

Present: Councillor N Hargreaves
Councillors C Day, P Lees and J Lodge

Officers in attendance: F Gardiner (Communities Manager), C Gibson (Democratic Services Officer) and S Hayden (Community Development Officer)

VG1 ELECTION OF A CHAIR

RESOLVED to elect Councillor Hargreaves as Chair.

VG2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no apologies for absence.

Councillor Day had been appointed to the Committee by executive decision; this would come into effect later in the week. He therefore attended the meeting without having voting rights.

VG3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 January 2020 were agreed and would be signed as an accurate record at an appropriate point.

VG4 APPLICATIONS BY ORGANISATIONS

Each application was considered in turn. The Chair confirmed that in addition to £330,000 being available for distribution, a further £53,200 had been made available from unspent Community Project Grants and £3,000 from monies not having been spent on the Thaxted Festival, which had not taken place. This meant there was £386,200 available to allocate.

Members resolved to grant funds to organisations, subject to the consideration of all valid applications and the overall budget limit. One further outstanding application remained for discussion at the next meeting. Members agreed to re-visit these initial allocations at the next meeting to be held on Tuesday 23 February 2021 at 12.30.

4a Council for Voluntary Services Uttlesford (CVSU)

Members considered that this organisation had stood up fairly well to date throughout the pandemic.

RESOLVED to grant CVSU Organisation £34,000, subject to the consideration of all valid applications and the overall budget limit.

4b Uttlesford Community Travel

Members noted that £17,000 had previously been granted for vehicle replacement through a Community Project Grant. Officers confirmed that concerns previously expressed around zero hour contracts had now been resolved.

RESOLVED to grant Uttlesford Community Travel £40,000, subject to the consideration of all valid applications and the overall budget limit.

4c St Clare West Essex Hospice Care Trust

Members noted that the pandemic had resulted in a significant drop in fundraised income.

RESOLVED to grant St Clare West Essex Hospice Care Trust £5,000, subject to the consideration of all valid applications and the overall budget limit.

4d Community 360 Training

Members noted that remote training was currently in place and that the requested funding would enable bursary places to be provided for 52 people to receive training.

Members requested that further information be sought in respect of the effects of the pandemic on the organisation.

RESOLVED that the item be deferred and carried forward to the next meeting.

4e Home-Start Essex

Members discussed the fact that the home visiting service had continued to operate well throughout the pandemic.

RESOLVED to grant Home Start Essex £10,500, subject to the consideration of all valid applications and the overall budget limit.

4f Volunteer Uttlesford

Councillor Lodge declared a non-prejudicial interest as his wife had previously worked for the organisation.

Members acknowledged that extra demands had been placed on the organisation during the pandemic.

RESOLVED to grant Volunteer Uttlesford £18,000, subject to the consideration of all valid applications and the overall budget limit.

4g Support 4 Sight

Members expressed support for the application, particularly given that the organisation had experienced difficult times having left the shop.

RESOLVED to grant Support 4 Sight £10,000, subject to the consideration of all valid applications and the overall budget limit.

4h Action for Family Carers

Members noted that Covid costs to the organisation had exceeded £15,600 and that the organisation had proved itself throughout the pandemic.

RESOLVED to grant Action for Family Carers £15,000, subject to the consideration of all valid applications and the overall budget limit.

4i Hearing Help Essex

Members noted that the organisation had incurred significant additional expenditure due to Covid and had shown great initiative during this time, alongside many other organisations.

RESOLVED to grant Hearing Help Essex £3,500, subject to the consideration of all valid applications and the overall budget limit.

4j Uttlesford Citizens Advice

Officers explained that the application was broken down between £155,000 and £5,000 which was a separate invoice for frontline services. Members supported the application and confirmed the excellent on-going service provided by Citizens Advice.

RESOLVED to recommend that Cabinet grant Uttlesford Citizens Advice £160,000, subject to the consideration of all valid applications and the overall budget limit.

4k Citizens Advice East Herts

Members noted the map showing the areas of deprivation in Uttlesford and recognised the support provided by Citizens Advice East Herts to many Uttlesford residents, particularly to those living near to Bishop's Stortford who had utilised the service located there. Extra pressures caused by the pandemic were also recognised and the complexity of cases had also increased.

RESOLVED to grant Citizens Advice East Hertfordshire £11,500, subject to the consideration of all valid applications and the overall budget limit.

4l Accuro (Care Services)

Members acknowledged that this organisation provided a county-wide service and had incurred additional costs of £5,700 because of the pandemic. Members initially supported the officers' recommendation of £15,000 but subsequently re-visited the item and increased that figure.

RESOLVED to grant Accuro (Care Services) £20,000, subject to the consideration of all valid applications and the overall budget limit.

4m Uttlesford Buffy Bus Association - Buffy Playbus

Members recognised that services offered by the organisation since Covid restrictions had been reduced, staff had initially been furloughed but that initiative had been used and that the funding request was supported.

RESOLVED to grant Uttlesford Buffy Bus Association £5,000, subject to the consideration of all valid applications and the overall budget limit.

4n Carers First

Members noted that costs associated with the pandemic were shown as £30,000 and that between April and December 2020 there were 69 new carers. Members recognised that there were many cases where children were looking after parents, as well as schooling siblings.

The application was supported and after initial discussions the matter was revisited.

RESOLVED to grant Carers First £7,381, subject to the consideration of all valid applications and the overall budget limit.

4o Bridge Meadows CIC

Councillor Lodge declared a non-prejudicial interest as the operators were known to him.

Officers clarified that this organisation was a Community Interest Company and applications were only open to registered charities. However, possible alternative funding streams existed, such as Health and Well-being grants.

Members accepted this information and officers agreed to investigate alternative funding streams.

RESOLVED to grant Bridge Meadows CIC nil monies.

4p Dig It Community Allotment

Councillor Lodge declared a non-prejudicial interest as his wife had previously had connections with the organisation but she had had no involvement for the past couple of years.

Members recognised the healthy outdoor nature of the works involved and supported the application.

RESOLVED to grant Dig it Community Allotment £6,000, subject to the consideration of all valid applications and the overall budget limit.

4q Saffron Walden Mencap Society

Members discussed the recommendation made by officers that no grant be given to the organisation. Concerns were expressed that the funding being requested was for a new project, about which there were doubts as to future sustainability. There was also seen to be some overlap with the works undertaken by Accuro (Care Services). It was recognised that possible alternative funding streams existed, such as Health and Well-being grants. Members requested that officers should investigate further possible funding streams.

RESOLVED to grant Saffron Walden Mencap Society nil monies.

Meeting Closed 12.22 pm

**VOLUNTARY SUPPORT GRANT COMMITTEE held at ZOOM on TUESDAY,
23 FEBRUARY 2021 at 12.30 pm**

Present: Councillor N Hargreaves
Councillors C Day and P Lees

Officers in attendance: F Gardiner (Communities Manager), C Gibson (Democratic Services Officer) and S Hayden (Community Development Officer)

The meeting started at 13.05hrs.

VG5 ELECTION OF A CHAIR

RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Hargreaves as Chair.

VG6 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Lodge.

VG7 VSG APPLICATION - COMMUNITY 360 TRAINING

At the previous meeting, Members had requested further information in respect of whether the organisation's expenditure during the pandemic had been less than usual. The organisation had satisfactorily explained their position.

Members fully supported the officers' recommendation and noted that the organisation had a proven record.

RESOLVED to grant Community 360 Training £6,000.

VG8 VSG APPLICATION - SAFFRON HALL TRUST

Councillor Lodge had previously declared a personal and prejudicial interest as he was a trustee of the organisation. He took no part in the decision-making process and did not attend this meeting.

The Chair said that the case for funding had been well presented and that there was a clear explanation as to why £9,000 funding had been requested.

Members recognised that this organisation was a very professional body, providing a very good service for a wide spectrum of ages, particularly through intergenerational projects.

RESOLVED to grant Saffron Hall Trust £9,000.

APPLICATIONS BY ORGANISATIONS

The Chair said that the previous meeting of the Committee had agreed to grant organisations £345,881, subject to the consideration of all valid applications and the overall budget limit. He confirmed that there was £386,200 available to allocate.

He said that approval had previously been given for £7,381 to be provided to Carers First and Members supported the proposal to round that figure up to £7,400.

RESOLVED to grant Carers First £7,400.

The Chair said that, following consideration of all grants, this left a sum of £25,300 available to distribute. He proposed that this remaining sum be allocated by looking at the organisations that had most clearly had extra costs to cover during the pandemic. This view was supported.

Members noted that the Council for Voluntary Services Uttlesford (CVSU) had detailed additional costs directly related to Covid-19 as £71,000 and recognised that the organisation had shown great innovations throughout the pandemic in maintaining communications with the public. A proposal was made to increase the previously agreed sum by 50%.

RESOLVED to grant the Council for Voluntary Services Uttlesford (CVSU) £51,000.

Members noted that approval had previously been given for £40,000 to be provided to Uttlesford Community Travel but that the organisation had sought £48,300. Members noted that the organisation had been lifeblood to many people during the pandemic and particularly recognised that many people were currently using the service to get to vaccination centres.

RESOLVED to grant Uttlesford Community Travel £48,300.

All other grants remained as approved at the meeting held on 15 February 2021 and the final allocation of £386,200 has been detailed in the table below.

The Chair stated that additional funding had been found for this year but there were no guarantees for future years.

Organisation	Project	Amount Requested 2021/22	Allocated 2020/21	Amount Initially Allocated 2021/22	Amount Finally Allocated 2021/22
Council for Voluntary Services Uttlesford (CVSU)	Core funding	£34,000.00	£34,000	£34,000	£51,000
Uttlesford Community Travel	Core funding	£48,300.00	£40,000	£40,000	£48,300
Uttlesford Community Travel	Vehicle replacement	*	*	*	*
St Clare West Essex Hospice Care Trust	Core funding	£5,000.00	£3,000	£5,000	£5,000
Community 360 Training	Core funding	£6,000.00	£6,000	C/F	£6,000
Home-Start Essex	Core funding	£10,500.00	£10,500	£10,500	£10,500
Volunteer Uttlesford	Core funding	£22,000.00	£13,600	£18,000	£18,000
Support 4 Sight	Core funding	£11,650.00	£11,286	£10,000	£10,000
Action for Family Carers	Core funding	£14,077.73	£15,400	£15,000	£15,000
Hearing Help Essex	Core funding	£3,500.00	£2,000	£3,500	£3,500
Uttlesford Citizens Advice	Core funding	£155,000.00	£155,000	£155,000	£155,000
Uttlesford Citizens Advice	Frontline	£5,000.00	£5,000	£5,000	£5,000
Citizens Advice East Herts	Core funding	£11,500.00	£11,500	£11,500	£11,500
Accuro (Care Service)	Core funding	£25,000.00	£10,000	£20,000	£20,000
Uttlesford Buffy Bus Association - Buffy Playbus	Core funding	£5,709.00	£5,000	£5,000	£5,000
Carers First	Core funding	£7,381.00	£6,000	£7,381	£7,400
Saffron Hall Trust	Core funding	£9,000.00	£1,000	C/F	£9,000
Bridge Meadows CIC	Core funding	£5,000.00	Nil	Nil	Nil
Dig-It Community Allotment	Core funding	£6,000.00	Nil	£6,000	£6,000
Saffron Walden Mencap Society	Core funding	£8,000.00	Nil	Nil	Nil

Total £392,617.73 £329,286 £345,881 £386,200

* £17,000 vehicle replacement - from another budget

Meeting Closed at 13.20hrs.

Agenda Item 4

Committee: Voluntary Support Grant Committee

Date:

Title: Voluntary Organisation Support Grant

24 February 2022

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Sutton - Communities

Report Author: Sue Hayden

Key decision:

Summary

1. Each year the district council opens its Voluntary Organisation Support Grant to registered charities who provide vital assistance to the residents of Uttlesford through the Council's corporate objectives. The organisations apply via an on-line application form, as well as supplying a copy of the organisation's most recent audited financial accounts, medium/long term business plan, copies of the organisation's equalities policy, constitution and safeguarding policy.

Recommendations

2. To consider all applications and allocate up to £310,000 grant funding as per the Council's Grants policy.

Financial Implications

3. There is a budget provision of £310,000 for 2022/23 to support organisations, in assisting the council to meet its corporate plan objectives.

Background Papers

4. The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report and are available for inspection from the author of the report.

Applications received from organisations applying to the Voluntary Organisation Support Grant for 2022/23.

Impact

5.

Communication/Consultation	Applications sort from voluntary sector organisations.
Community Safety	N/A
Equalities	Funding is open to all registered charities

Health and Safety	N/A
Human Rights/Legal Implications	The Council has the powers to award grants to organisations using its general power of competence in section 1 of the Localism Act 2011
Sustainability	N/A
Ward-specific impacts	N/A
Workforce/Workplace	Communities Team

Situation

6. Each organisation has been invited to attend an individual virtual meeting with the Committee of the Cabinet, along with officer support, on 21 February 2022 to talk through their application and answer any questions.
7. A formal Committee of the Cabinet meeting will take place on 24 February, along with relevant officer support, to allocate the £310,000. The decisions will then be ratified at a Cabinet meeting, after which time, the organisations will be informed of the outcome.
8. Below sets out details of the use that will be made of any financial aid given by Uttlesford District Council by each organisation and how much money they are requesting for 2022/23.

9. **Accuro**

Any funding provided by Uttlesford District Council will be used to cover revenue funding for the operational project costs, including staff costs and core organisational costs of delivering Accuro's services in Uttlesford.

Any financial aid given by UDC will be restricted to Accuro's services in Uttlesford

- Saturday Play Club – Saffron Walden
- U19s Projects – Saffron Walden and Great Dunmow
- School Holiday project – Uttlesford
- Adult Friendship Scheme – Saffron Walden
- Young adult Friendship scheme – Saffron Walden
- STRIDE – Great Dunmow
- Stay and Play – Saffron Walden
- And to launch new services to meet new needs identified

Support will allow them to continue to deliver services, helping make a real difference to the lives of local people with disability making Uttlesford the best place to live, work and play.

Amount requested £15,000

10. Action for Family Carers

Funding will ensure that all Young Carers and Young Adult Carers in Uttlesford have access to information and advice, practical and emotional support and breaks from their caring role so that they feel better able to enjoy their childhood, to participate in social activities, to maintain their own health and wellbeing and to achieve their potential.

Action for Family Carers will offer comprehensive and holistic support for Young Carers and Young Adult Carers in Uttlesford, based on one worker, dedicating two days per week to Young and Young Adult Carer support across Uttlesford.

Action for Family Carers will organise and facilitate fortnightly club nights for Young Carers alternating between Stansted and Great Dunmow to ensure that there is a club within reasonable reach for all Young Carers across the district.

Young Carer clubs/sessions will be two hours long with an extra half-hour reserved for private conversations with older Young Adult Carers. Which gives Young and Young Adult Carers a consistent and reliable time and place to meet with a worker. Young Adult Carers will also be encouraged to attend the club itself to either meet with others or volunteer with the younger children as a peer mentor. This is mutually beneficial and helps the Young Adult Carers to improve their leadership skills, builds confidence and improves their listening and interpersonal skills.

Amount requested £16,500

11. Uttlesford Buffy Bus Association Buffy Playbus

Financial aid will be used alongside that of the funding already secured from the Lottery (Community Fund) and other sources such as Essex Community Foundation, The Little Butterflies Foundation plus others to continue the present level of service offered, alongside future developments such as supporting SEND families during the summer holidays and an exciting new project planned for summer 2022 to provide outside messy play sessions in the Uttlesford district.

Amount Requested £6,050

12. Carers First

Due to being unable to meet carers physically over the last 2 years, support has largely been delivered by telephone and online without any interruption to the service. Since Summer 2020, Carers First have adopted a blended approach of face to face and online services to offer the widest possible menu of options to carers. The project has three strands and focusses on extending and adding value to our personalised support offer:

1. To purchase free carer wellbeing resource packs (30 in total). Packs will include activities that carers can do at home. This will give to support carers who are still, to some extent, shielding or caring for someone shielding, vulnerable, isolated, elderly, unable to leave the house due to the nature of their caring role and those who do not want to go out as they continue to lack confidence to do so. Packs will include mindfulness colouring books, herb growing kits, jigsaws, arts and crafts materials, relaxation oils and exercise dvds.
2. For those carers who can leave the house, activity vouchers to local recreational, leisure venues and wellbeing services and local hairdressers will be offered (30 in total). Carers can request a voucher for a free activity that will give them a break and allow them to access activities that non carers are able to enjoy.
3. A programme of additional carer wellbeing group activities (open to all) including meals out (lunch/cream tea), trips to attractions such as Duxford or training workshops on First Aid or other carer- identified topics will be arranged. A co-production of a programme with Uttlesford carers, and group activities will provide an opportunity to interact with other carers for peer support, offer a break from the caring role and reduce social isolation whilst enhancing carer wellbeing.

Amount requested £9,660

13. Uttlesford Citizen Advice

Core generalist and debt advice services funding

Uttlesford District Council funding will cover fixed salary costs associated with providing generalist and debt advice. Uttlesford CA will continue to actively look for new project funding to support the unmet needs of residents, assuming project aims, and objectives complement our own priorities and strengths.

Funds from the District Council ensures adequate staffing levels necessary to manage a large volunteer resource and maintain our high quality of advice. In addition to staff costs associated with advice provision, administrators and managers are paid to ensure that the service is run in a professional, safe manner. Uttlesford CA is audited annually by the national body of Citizens Advice to assess leadership performance in Governance; Strategic Business Planning; Risk Management; Financial Management; People Management; Equality Leadership; Operation Performance Management; Partnership

Working and Research and Campaigns.

Funding from the Council will ensure that paid training resource continues. In 22-23 it is planned to recruit an additional 10 volunteers whilst providing ongoing training and development for our existing workforce.

Frontline Funding

Frontline is a local referral and signposting online platform that was originally built and designed by Uttlesford Citizens Advice using Big Lottery funding secured by a partnership agreement with Uttlesford District Council and other local partners. The project (that is currently migrating to a non-profit company solely owned and controlled by Uttlesford Citizens Advice) is now funded across west Essex by Essex County Council and WECCG, and is now also available in East Herts, Broxbourne and will shortly be rolling out to Northumberland. It's an exciting time for Frontline because it is currently in final testing for a significant upgrade to the platform that will hopefully be rolled out to Uttlesford by the end of the financial year.

The £5,000 contribution from UDC will be allocated specifically to fund an existing member of staff to continue to focus on expansion. The Trustee Board is confident that Frontline has the potential to off-set a significant element of overhead back to UCA over the long term - that will make Uttlesford CA less reliant on grant income from UDC in the future.

Amount requested £191,000 plus £5,000 plus VAT for Frontline

14. Council for Voluntary Services

The use any grant funding made by the Council would enable the operational strategy to directly support the local voluntary community sectors (VSC) and the communities operated within, in the areas of need and objectives as laid out for the forthcoming year. Focus upon the specific areas and gaps in provision that the Covid 19 crisis continues to be amplified and will continue to do so over the coming years. The demands that this crisis has and will continue to create within the district cannot be underestimated and the need for the Council for Voluntary Services and those of other VCS organisations interventions will only become greater. It is already being seen that people and families reach crisis point which in turn has a knock-on effect to causing other social and health needs to develop that need our support. The sector and Council for Voluntary Services must be financially resilient and future proofed to be able to cope with the additional demands that are and will be made of it moving forward.

It is vital that behind the project staff there is a core team that can furnish them with a whole system approach that is responsive, operating within a framework that strongly supports their effective delivery, based upon safe, smart, innovative practice and which aligns itself with the districts needs with

partnership being paramount.

Amount requested £55,000

15. Dig-it

During 2021, Dig-It worked with volunteers to increase the produce grown on the allotment with a focus on building immunity and educating volunteers on incorporating vegetables, herbs and fruits grown into healthy meals which they can cook.

Strong collaborations have been developed within the local community and partnership working with Mencap Café Cornell to extend the community kitchen has been achieved. A new summerhouse was kindly donated (that will be built in spring 2022) will provide a safe and clean environment for food preparation in 2022. The collaboration with Cornell Café includes groups from their project to be involved in growing from “plot to plate” where morning sessions at the allotment are delivered, followed by bus transport back to Cornell Café where the group will share a meal of the fresh produce they have grown.

Groups are currently run on a Monday and Friday, with Wednesday dedicated to members of Saffron Walden Mencap Society and Cafe Cornell. Further partnerships will be developed with other charities in the community who may also benefit from the site, ensuring the allotment can grow from its current three day use to be in use for the majority of the week by various groups. There has been much interest this year from the local community who work, to run an afterwork/weekend session. This noted by many as much needed following extensive time in lockdown and burn out due to increased screen time and working from home practices. This year Dig-It's aim is to deliver an out of work hours session specifically for this group.

Funding will be used to:

- 1 Develop the plot to plate project in collaboration with Cornell Café and Mencap
- 2 Deliver an after work group that has been much needed for some time and a real highlighted need in our community
- 3 Explore potential for a second site in collaboration with our partners Cafe Cornell and Mencap

Amount requested £5,000

16. Citizens Advice East Herts

Historically, Uttlesford District Council has recognised that some Uttlesford residents choose to seek advice in Bishop's Stortford and has been financially supportive of the advice that we give to them.

Despite the move to providing the majority of clients advice by phone and digital for those whose problems can be helped in this way, it is recognised that there are a significant minority who will still need face to face advice. Additionally, we know that 1 in 10 clients require on going casework.

The annual cost of running the advice service across East Herts is around £280,000 comprising of salaries, volunteers, and premises costs. Funding from Uttlesford District Council will allow continuation to not only advise Uttlesford residents by phone and email but also to advise them face to face and offer ongoing casework where their case requires it. It will also contribute to the community and partner engagement work including Information Hubs in community spaces and Community Access Points (including public access computers and free phones) in partner buildings as well as helping to continue Frontline.

Around 4% of clients who give a postcode live in Uttlesford. This means that many residents choose to get advice from Citizens Advice East Herts, despite being over the border in Hertfordshire. Without Council funding Citizens Advice East Herts would be unable to continue to provide advice and importantly ongoing casework to Uttlesford residents

Amount requested £11,500

17. Hearing Help

The grant requested will contribute the Uttlesford related percentage of Hearing Help's service delivery costs, core rent, salaries and running costs which have increased considerably to provide a covid-safe service. Sessions used to be drop-in and required very little administration in advance; now a formal registration and booking process needs to be run to ensure social distancing is maintained at all times at each venue, which has increased the work load of the administrative team, as well as provide relevant PPE and additional cleaning supplies.

The total project cost is £11,400 - the remaining funding has been secured as a percentage of larger grants from Essex Community Foundation, and from our own reserves.

This grant will be spent on:
Training and Vetting x 4 new Volunteers

Provision of Volunteer Kit Boxes
Volunteer Travel Expenses
Contribution to administration of service
Promotion of services
Contribution to premises hire and insurance

Amount requested £5,700

18. Home-Start Essex

Home-Start Essex is seeking financial aid to continue the delivery of its unique Home Visiting service in Uttlesford. A range of individually tailored support services to meet the practical and emotional needs of approximately 50 families per annum is delivered. The financial aid requested would fund 1:1 home visiting support for 11 families within a 12-month period.

Ordinarily the support given would take the following form: upon receipt of referral, an experienced Coordinators would conduct an initial visit to families to assess their needs. Together with the family, they will devise a Family Support Plan, which will include the provision of a trained volunteer parent mentor on a weekly basis who will visit the family within their home for 2 to 3 hours every week, if this is service is appropriate to the family's identified needs.

Referrals are accepted from a wide range of sources including professionals from the Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service, social care and nurseries, with families also able to self-refer.

Amount requested £12,813.29

19. Radwinter Recreation Ground Charity

The expenditure will be used to contract for the regular maintenance of the recreation ground - cutting the pitch and playground and car parking, weed control around the Multi Use Games Area, bike track and roadway and hedge cutting. This is particularly needed because many circumstances changed due to Covid.

During 2020-2022 to date (and in agreement with the Parish Council who own the land), the charity had to reduce the cutting of the outfield areas to a minimum to reduce costs. This reflected the ceasing of rental income and lack of bookings during the pandemic. The pitches will no longer be booked by youth football, as they have their own ground, losing further income. The previous contractor has ceased to operate, the village cricket team has closed due to a lack of people to maintain the wicket and the burden of grass cutting undertaken by volunteers has become too great to be reliable.

Radwinter Recreation Ground Charity have requested half of the cost of the maintenance contract for the first year, until its income grows back to pre-Covid levels. The additional cutting will be funded by the cricket rental bookings.

Amount requested £3,450

20. Saffron Hall Trust

Saffron Hall Trust is seeking funding to further develop the Come Together project which has been supported by UDC in 2021/22.

Come Together aims to:

- Unite people from across the Uttlesford area, creating new, intergenerational connections.
- Positively impact participants mental health and general wellbeing
- Support participants to develop and utilise creative and artistic skills, to explore issues of importance to them and the community.
- Produce high quality collaborative artistic outcomes which are shared more widely across the community

Due to Covid-19 enforced delays in our live session delivery, the currently funded programme will therefore conclude in July 2022. By the end of the funded period c. 50 residents, aged 14 to over 80 will have participated in sessions and shared their responses to our theme 'Unlocked'.

The request for funding is therefore for £6,000 to support ongoing sessions in Saffron Walden from September 2022 to March 2023 – through which will increase engagement and continuing to build and strengthen relationships with other voluntary sector groups, and for £3,000 to support the delivery of an initial programme of sessions in another part of the district (notionally Stansted).

Amount requested £9,000

21. St Clare Hospice

St Clare Hospice is applying for funding to support the development of a new St Clare Hospice Community Hub which will provide accessible, practical, social and emotional support for people with chronic, life limiting illnesses living in the north of Uttlesford, and their families.

It is planned to develop a new 'Hospice Community Hub', based at The Saffron Walden Salvation Army premises. The location is centrally based and is easily accessible for people living in the town and in surrounding villages.

The Hub will be open on a 'drop-in' basis for residents on the third Thursday of every month. Initially staffed by a St Clare Hospice Social Worker and Patient & Family Support Worker, the Hub will also benefit from the help of 2-3 locally based and fully trained hospice volunteers. The team will have established links with all local health and social care providers, including GP's, health centres and Saffron Walden Community Hospital.

Amount requested £5,000

22. Support 4 Sight

Following in-depth consultations and a review of Support 4 Sight's delivery model in Uttlesford, which also took in the changes brought on by C19, the service is moving from a single location, at what used to be our Resource Centre, to a community-based model, offering services and activities at different locations across the district combined with home visits.

To deliver these, the a new Outreach Worker post will be established

- staff our Pop-Up Resource Centre in Saffron Walden Town Hall
- undertake home visits to those unable to attend our Pop-Up

Offering the following:

1. bi-monthly Pop-Ups at Saffron Walden Town Hall, lasting three hours each (22 per year), offering equipment information and demonstrations, advice, guidance and signposting to other agencies. A book club is also planned. People will make an appointment or simply drop in (Covid guidelines permitting)
2. home visits (approx. 100 per year) to provide demonstrations and advice in response to enquiries.
3. monthly coffee mornings in Saffron Walden and Dunmow
4. produce and distribute the weekly Uttlesford Talking News
5. provide volunteering opportunities, training and support to local residents (including those with lived experience) – it is expected these to number 50 during 2022/23 (with volunteering having to be largely halted during C19, volunteering is slowly restarting in early 2022)

The financial aid will fund:

1. the outreach worker
2. room hire costs for the Pop-Up at the Town Hall
3. venue hire for the coffee mornings
4. rent of our Hill Street office where the Uttlesford Talking News is produced (existing lease)
4. volunteer and staff travel and other expenses

Amount requested £15,346

23. Thaxted Disabled Centre

The Centre hires specially adapted minibuses & trained drivers from Uttlesford Community Travel to transport disabled members to & from the Centre for sessions twice a week on Mondays & Thursdays. Over half of the Centre's annual costs are spent on providing this transport. If funding to cover the cost of providing the necessary transport for members was not available, Members would not be able to attend the Centre & the Centre would no longer be able to function.

This specialised transport costs around £1,500 per month and a grant of £9,000 from Uttlesford District Council would cover this cost for 6 months.

Amount requested £9,000

24. Uttlesford Community Travel

The Grant from Uttlesford District Council is a vital part of Uttlesford Community Travel's income which contributes to the cost of providing services to the residents of Uttlesford, which is increasing due to population growth and with more of UCT's members moving into the 80-100+ age category.

The grant also helps with the extension to weekend working hours assisting the vaccination programme.

Uttlesford Community Travel aim is to replace one vehicle every year with the replacement grant, currently all vehicles comply with the latest emissions EURO 6 - Our long-term vision is to set a Net Zero Carbon goal and project electric vehicles.

With increased demand to vehicle mileage, it is important the vehicle replacement remains to avoid safety concerns, high maintenance charges and reliability issues preventing UCT delivering the service at its current level.

Amount requested £48,000 plus replacement vehicle project £17,000* from different grant pot.

25. Volunteer Uttlesford

Financial aid given to Volunteer Uttlesford will be used as part of its essential core funding, to enable the continuation of the level of service needed and expected of a successful Volunteer Centre.

Funding received will contribute to and ensure continuity of: -

Salaries and general running costs of Volunteer Uttlesford

Raising the profile of volunteering in the district

Working to ensure that the enormous contribution made by voluntary and community organisations in the district is fully understood by our community
Encouraging the development of a strategy for greater co-operation and joint working with Uttlesford District Council so that both infrastructure organisations like ourselves and front-line organisations can make an even greater contribution to the health, wellbeing and quality of life for residents of this district

Community engagement, expanding on volunteer opportunities to enhance and promote good neighbourliness

Amount requested £24,000

Risk Analysis

26.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
Allocation of grants does not secure their implementation	2 The organisations are well established and have a strong partnership	4	The grants will be subject to grant conditions in accordance with the Grants Policy.

1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.

Organisation	Amount Requested	Allocated 2020/21	Allocated 2021/22	Allocated 2022/23
Council for Voluntary Services	£55,000.00	£34,000.00	£51,000.00	
Uttlesford Community Travel	£48,300.00	£40,000.00	£48,300.00	
Uttlesford Community Travel*	Different grant			
St Clare West Essex Hospice Care Trust	£5,000.00	£3,000.00	£5,000.00	
Community 360	Nil	£6,000.00	£6,000.00	
Home-Start Essex	£12,813.29	£10,500.00	£10,500.00	
Volunteer Uttlesford	£24,000.00	£13,600.00	£18,000.00	
Support 4 Sight	£15,346.00	£11,285.97	£10,000.00	
Action for Family Carers	£16,500.00	£15,400.00	£15,000.00	
Hearing Help Essex Ltd	£5,700.00	£2,000.00	£3,500.00	
Uttlesford Citizen Advice	£191,000.00	£155,000.00	£155,000.00	
Uttlesford Citizen Advice	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	
Citizens Advice East Herts	£11,500.00	£11,500.00	£11,500.00	
Accoro (Care Service)	£15,000.00	£10,000.00	£20,000.00	
Uttlesford Buffy Bus Association	£6,050.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	
Carers FIRST	£9,660.00	£6,000.00	£7,400.00	
Saffron Hall Trust	£9,000.00	£1,000.00	£9,000.00	
Dig-It	£5,000.00	Nil	£6,000.00	
Thaxted Centre for the Disabled	£9,000.00	Nil	Nil	
Radwinter Recreation Ground Charity	£3,450.00	Nil	Nil	

TOTAL	£447,319.29	£329,285.97	£386,200.00	
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* £17,000
vehicle
replacement

Total requested	£447,319.29
Budget available	£310,000.00
Overspend	£137,319.29